

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04091 01 OF 03 030055Z
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7556
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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 LAGOS 04091

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: JOINT COMMUNIQUE

THE FOLLOWING JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS SIGNED AND RELEASED
TO THE PRESS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE STATE DINNER
SUNDAY EVENING, APRIL 2:

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

1. BEGIN TEXT: AT THE INOITATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY
LT. DENERAL OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, HEAD OF THE FEDERAL
MILITARY GOVERNMENT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED
FORCES OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HIS
EXCELLENCY JIMMY CARTER, AND MRS. CARTER PAID A STATE
VISIT TO NIGERIA FROM 31ST MARCH TO 3RD APRIL, 1978.
THIS VISIT RECIPROCATED THE VISIT TO THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA BY THE HEAD OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY
GOVERNMENT FROM 11TH TO 13TH OCTOBER, 1977. IT WAS
THE FIRST STATE VISIT BY AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT
TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, PROVIDING PRESIDENT CARTER
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 04091 01 OF 03 030055Z

AN OPPORTUNITY TO
WITNESS FIRST-HAND THE ASPIRATIONS,
ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY AFRICA.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE VISIT, THE TWO HEADS OF
STATE MET IN PLENARY SESSIONS DURING WHICH THEY
DISCUSSED BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

3. PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS HOST, LT. GENERAL OBASANJO, EXAMINED EXTENSIVELY THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE AFRICAN REGION AND DEVOTED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. THEY WERE FULLY AGREED ON THE NEED FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN AFRICA AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT A SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION WILL PREVAIL IN THOSE AREAS OF NORTH-WEST AFRICA AND IN THE HORN OF AFRICA THAT ARE STILL VICTIMS OF FRATRICIDAL CONFLICTS.

5. PRESIDENT CARTER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH NIGERIA'S EFFORTS IN ITS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU GOOD OFFICES COMMISSION TO RESTORE PEACE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA. IT WAS AGREED THAT NIGERIA SHOULD PERSEVERE IN ITS EFFORTS TO GET THE PARTIES IN THE DISPUTE TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AND THEREFORE DURABLE SOLUTION. WITH THE FIGHTING IN THE HORN OF AFRICA NOW ENDED, THE TWO LEADERS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE REMAINING PROBLEMS IN THAT REGION WILL BE SETTLED BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

6. ON ZIMBABWE, THE TWO HEADS OF STATE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL AND
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 04091 01 OF 03 030055Z

REITERATED THEIR CONVICTION THAT, IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, ONLY A SETTLEMENT WHICH IS BASED ON ITS PRINCIPLES CAN BRING ABOUT RACIAL HARMONY, PROSPERITY AND JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN ZIMBABWE. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE AGREED THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS

MADE UNDER THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT OF MARCH 3 DO NOT CHANGE THE ILLEGAL CHARACTER OF THE PRESENT REGIME AND IS UNACCEPTABLE AS THEY DO NOT GUARANTEE

A GENUINE TRANSFER OF POWER TO THE MAJORITY NOR TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS OF ALL THE ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALIST GROUPS.

7. THE SITUATION IN NAMIBIA WAS ALSO CAREFULLY EXAMINED. LT. GENERAL OBASANJO EMPHASIZED HIS GOVERNMENT'S FULL SUPPORT FOR SWAPO AS THE AUTHENTIC LEADERS OF THE PEOPLE IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE FOR THE GENUINE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA, WITH ITS UNITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY FULLY GUARANTEED.

PRESIDENT CARTER STRESSED THE NEED FOR

A SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE WHICH WOULD
GUARANTEE THAT ALL POLITICAL GROUPS WOULD HAVE AN
EQUAL AND FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE IN FREE
ELECTIONS IN WHICH THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WOULD MAKE
THEIR OWN CHOICE ABOUT THEIR FUTURE GOVERNMENT.
THE TWO LEADERS AGREED THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE
PEACE AND SECURITY OF AFRICA THAT NAMIBIA ACHIEVE
ITS INDEPENDENCE ON THE BASIS OF UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385. THEY REVIEWED
THE CURRENT EFFORTS OF THE FIVE POWER WESTERN
CONTACT GROUP AND DISCUSSED THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL
WHICH THE FIVE HAVE DEVELOPED AS A MEANS OF A
PROMPT AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO GENUINE MAJORITY
RULE IN NAMIBIA.
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PAGE 04 LAGOS 04091 01 OF 03 030055Z

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04091 02 OF 03 030159Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 LAGOS 04091

8. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE RENEWED THEIR CONDEMNATION
OF THE EVIL AND OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID
IN SOUTH AFRICA. THEY PLEDGED THEIR JOINT EFFORTS
TO WORK TOWARD THE ELIMINATION OF THIS SYSTEM AND
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND HUMAN
DIGNITY FOR ALL RACES IN SOUTH AFRICA WITHIN A
FREE SOCIETY WHERE ALL CITIZENS WILL EXERCISE THEIR

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS TO INSTALL A GOVERNMENT OF THEIR CHOICE. THEY APPEALED TO ALL STATES TO DO THEIR PART TOWARD THE REALIZATION OF THIS OBJECTIVE.

9. THE NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE, LT. GENERAL OBASANJO, EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENTS STRONG DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE LACK OF IMPACT OF THE MANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD IN THE PAST TO ERADICATE THE OBNOXIOUS SYSTEM OF APARTHEID. THIS HE ASCRIBED TO THE INADEQUACY OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED AS WELL AS THE LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF NATIONS CALLED UPON TO IMPLEMENT THESE MEASURES. HE NOTED THAT SOME OF THESE NATIONS HAVE PURSUED POLICIES OF OUTRIGHT COLLABORATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN BOTH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 04091 02 OF 03 030159Z

MATTERS. FINALLY, THE HEAD OF STATE RE-EMPHASIZED HIS GOVERNMENTS DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE TO EXTEND ALL POSSIBLE POLITICAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THE NATIONALIST LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, TO ENSURE AN EARLY END OF THE RACIST MINORITY DOMINATION.

10. PRESIDENT CARTER AND LT. GENERAL OBASANJO

EXPRESSED THE INTENTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, AS MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, TO WORK CLOSELY IN THE COUNCIL IN THE INTEREST OF STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. THEY EXPRESSED PARTICULAR APPROVAL OF THE SECURITY COUNCILS PROMPT ACTION IN ESTABLISHING A UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON AND PLEDGED THEIR FULL COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE MANDATE GRANTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

11. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE EXCHANGED VIEWS CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND DEPLORED THE RECENT VIOLENCE WHICH OCCURRED IN THAT AREA. THEY AGREED THAT IT IS NECESSARY AND URGENT TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A JUST, COMPREHENSIVE AND DURABLE PEACE BASED ON UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. THEY STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF WITHDRAWAL ON ALL FRONTS PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 242 AND THE RESOLUTION OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION.

12. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE UNDERSCORED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 04091 02 OF 03 030159Z

CHARTER, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONCERNING THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ALL SOCIETIES. TO THIS END THEY CITED THE IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING THE HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

13. IN THEIR REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, THE TWO HEADS OF STATE STRESSED THE URGENT NEED FOR MEASURES TO SECURE A PRSPEROUS, JUST AND EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. THE TWO LEADERS PLACED SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN NIGERIA AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC DIALOGUE AND IN THE WORK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THEY AGREED ON THE VALUE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OVERVIEW COMMITTEE DIALOGUE IN ENHANCING AN UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN AND IN PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION. THEY APPEALED TO ALL NATIONS TO STRIVE VIGOROUSLY FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOALS SPECIFIED IN THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN PARTICULAR WITH RESPECT TO ISSUES OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN THIS REGARD, LT. GENERAL OBASANJO INVITED ATTENTION TO THE SLOW PACE OF PROGRESS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMON FUND AND ALLEVIATION OF THE DEBT PROBLEMS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE AGREED TO COOPERATE IN ORDER TO INTENSIFY ACTION WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TOWARDS FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM OF GLOBAL INFLATION.

14. THE TWO LEADERS DISCUSSED THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT WHICH OPENS IN MAY OF 1978. AS LEADERS OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT MATTERS, BOTH HEADS OF STATE AGREED THAT THE SESSION SHOULD PROVIDE A STIMULUS TO FURTHER CONCRETE DISARMAMENT

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PAGE 04 LAGOS 04091 02 OF 03 030159Z

EFFORTS.

15. THE TWO HEADS OF STATE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE PROGRESS THAT HAD BEEN MADE IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON BILATERAL COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL

FIELDS AND AGREED TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN RELATIONS IN THESE AREAS. MUTUAL EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TO FACILITATE INVESTMENT IN AREAS OF KEY IMPORTANCE TO NIGERIAS ECONOMIC GROWTH. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE TWO LEADERS AGREED TO SET UP JOINT WORKING GROUPS ON INVESTMENT AND TRADE, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND EDUCATION.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04091 03 OF 03 030220Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 LAGOS 04091

16. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND MRS. CARTER EXPRESSED THEIR PROFOUND APPRECIATION TO LT. GENERAL OBASANJO, THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA FOR THE GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY AFFORDED TO THEIR PARTY DURING THEIR VISIT TO NIGERIA.

17. THE PRESIDENT WAS IMPRESSED BY THE VISIBLE EVIDENCE OF THE PACE OF NIGERIAN ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND THE VIGOROUS AND DETERMINED EFFORTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA.

18. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS VISIT TO NIGERIA BY SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ADVISOR ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, UNITED NATIONS AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS RICHARD MOOSE, AND A TEAM OF SENIOR

OFFICIALS.

19. HIS EXCELLENCY THE HEAD OF STATE AND COMMANDER-
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 04091 03 OF 03 030220Z

IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF NIGERIA WAS ATTENDED BY CHIEF OF STAFF (SUPREME
HEADQUARTERS) BRIGADIER S.M. YARADUA, COMMISSIONER
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BRIGADIER J.N. GARBA,
COMMISSIONER FOR PETROLEUM COLONEL M. BUHARI,
FEDERAL COMMISSIONER FOR AGRICULTURE MR.
B.O.W. MAFENI, COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DR. O. ADEWOYE, AND A TEAM OF SENIOR OFFICIALS.

20. DONE AT LAGOS, THIS SECOND DAY OF APRIL, 1978.

JIMMY CARTER LT. GENERAL OLUSEGUN OBASAJO
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED HEAD OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY
STATES OF AMERICA GOVERNMENT, COMMANDER-IN-
CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES,
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
NIGERIA END TEXT.

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